Appl. No. 09/917,963

Amdt. dated September 3, 2003

Reply to Office Action of June 17, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

l(Canceled).

2(Currently Amended). The compound of claim $\frac{1}{2}$ which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

3(Canceled).

- 4(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.
- 5(Original). The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothicate linkage.
- 6(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.
- 7(Original). The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

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8(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9(Original). The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11 (Previously Presented). A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 3 encoding human microsomal triglyceride transfer protein, wherein said active site is a sequence spanning nucleotides 3133 to 3152 of SEQ ID NO: 3 and wherein said compound inhibits expression of said molecule encoding said protein.

12 (Currently Amended). A composition comprising the compound of claim \pm 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13(Original). The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14(Original). The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

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15(Currently Amended). A method of inhibiting the expression of human microsomal triglyceride transfer protein in cells or tissues in vitro comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim $\frac{1}{2}$ 11 so that expression of human microsomal triglyceride transfer protein is inhibited.

16-20 (Canceled).